



OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES  
[www.nj.gov/dep/opsc](http://www.nj.gov/dep/opsc)

The **Office of Planning and Sustainable Communities (OPSC)** facilitates the Department's proactive planning, based on principles of sustainability and environmental capacity. The OPSC advocates within the DEP, with other state agencies, regional agencies, municipalities, and developers and other permit applicants to coordinate collaborative land use planning consistent with environmental capacity and regulations, smart growth and sustainable development.

The OPSC provides technical assistance through our staff of experienced planners and sustainable community experts for local and regional sustainable land use planning efforts:

- NJDEP's representative in the State Planning Commission's plan endorsement process
- Direct guidance for communities' center-based development and community sustainability plans.  
Examples:
  - Opportunities and Constraints Analysis - Hopewell Township, Cumberland County
  - Case Study- Upper Township, Cape May County
- Created a build-out modeling tool that presents spatial data of constrained environmental features for use in water quality management plan updating
- NJDEP's technical advisor on affordable housing projects
- Partner with NJ State League of Municipalities' Mayors' Roundtable for a Green Future to create a Municipal Green Roadmap
- Provides technical assistance for local government to identify sustainable growth opportunities based on environmental capacity and constraints
- NJDEP advisor on sustainable growth projects with environmental enhancements that are advanced enough to establish a full permitting team for permit review.

The OPSC website at [www.nj.gov/dep/opsc](http://www.nj.gov/dep/opsc) provides this valuable information for your environmental capacity based planning and sustainability needs:

- Sample ordinances and plans for an array of environmental and planning topics
- Sustainability Guide for Developers and Communities
- How to Become an Environmentally Sustainable Community Guide
- How to Conduct an Energy Audit
- A Guide to Sustainable Grants and Loans
- Green Purchasing Guide